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Via ECFS  
Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

**Re: In the Matter of Petition of USTelecom for Forbearance Pursuant to  
47 U.S.C. Section 160(c); WC Docket No. 18-141; Category 1**

Dear FCC,

Competition is the life blood of a strong economy and it supports our position in the world. The proposed new rules reduce competition. By definition they will weaken our economy and our position in the world. Simple. I can't think of an argument that can support weakening our economy.

Michael Stephens